

## Message Text

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ORIGIN EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 NEA-10 IO-15 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00

INRE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-15

ACDA-19 SR-02 ORM-03 OMB-01 VOE-00 SCA-01 /133 R

DRAFTED BY EUR/EE/MHA VAN HEUVEN/MJ

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EUR/P - MJERABEK

EUR/CE - BAFLATIN

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O R 011621Z OCT 73

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST IMMEDIATE

INFO AMEMBASSY VIENNA

UNCLAS STATE 194695

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, SOCI, RO

SUBJECT: SOVIET-JEWISH EMIGRATION THROUGH ROMANIA

1. WASHINGTON POST AND NEW YORK TIMES CARRYING FRONT PAGE STORIES OCTOBER 1 TO THE EFFECT THAT BUCHAREST MAY REPLACE VIENNA AS TRANSITING POINT FOR SOVIET JEWS EXITING TO ISRAEL. BOTH STORIES DATED VIENNA.

2. POST ARTICLE HEADLINED "ROMANIA WEIGHED AS EXIT" AND CONTAINS FOLLOWING TWO OPENING PARAGRAPHS:

"ROMANIA, THE ONLY COMMUNIST COUNTRY THAT MAINTAINS DIPLOMATIC TIES WITH ISRAEL, IS BEING CONSIDERED AS A POSSIBLE NEW PROCESSING POINT FOR JEWISH EMIGRANTS FROM THE SOVIET UNION, ACCORDING TO JEWISH SOURCES HERE."

"BUCHAREST, WHICH LIES ON A MAJOR RAIL ROUTE FROM MOSCOW  
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AND HAS DIRECT AIR CONNECTIONS WITH ISRAEL, ALSO

OCCASIONALLY HAS BEEN USED AS A TRANSIT STATION FOR THE EMIGRANTS."

ARTICLE GOES ON TO SAY THAT EARLY SEPTEMBER 30 160 JEWISH EMIGRANTS WERE FLOWN FROM BUCHAREST TO TEL AVIV INSTEAD OF TRAVELLING TO VIENNA. ARTICLE ALSO REPORTS THAT THERE HAS BEEN NO OFFICIAL CONFIRMATION IN VIENNA

OF REPORT THAT ROMANIA WAS BEING CONSIDERED AS AN ALTERNATE EMIGRATION ROUTE AND STATES THAT THE ROMANIAN EMBASSY (IN VIENNA) WOULD MAKE NO COMMENT. POST STORY CONCLUDES THAT RELIABLE SOURCES CLOSE TO THE EMIGRATION ACTIVITIES SAID THAT INITIAL CONTACT HAD BEEN MADE AND THAT THE MATTER WOULD SOON BE DISCUSSED MORE THOROUGHLY.

3. TIMES STORY STATES THAT CHANCELLOR BRUNO KREISKY WOULD NOT DIRECTLY COMMENT ON A REPORT IN THE MASS-CIRCULATION KRONEN ZEITUNG OF VIENNA THAT THE FLOW OF JEWISH EMIGRATION FROM THE SOVIET UNION TO ISRAEL MIGHT HENCEFORTH BE CHANNLED THROUGH ROMANIA. KISSINGER

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